

JUNE 1, 2004

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

There will be a public hearing meeting of the **Finance Labor Subcommittee** of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County on **Tuesday, June 15, 2004** at the hour of **2:00 PM** in the Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois to consider the following:

265627 AMENDMENT TO THE COOK COUNTY LIVING WAGE ORDINANCE (PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT). Submitting a Proposed Ordinance Amendment sponsored by Roberto Maldonado and John P. Daley, County Commissioners. Co-Sponsored by Bobbie L. Steele, Mike Quigley and Larry Suffredin, County Commissioners.

requesting authorization to amend to the "Cook County Living Wage Ordinance" (98-O-21), approved by the Board on September 15, 1998, for your approval. This item will be introduced at the May 18, 2004 Board meeting and I will request that it be referred to the Finance Labor Subcommittee for further review and discussion.

Similar to the City of Chicago's Living Wage Ordinance (Title 2, Chapter 92, Section 610), the proposed amendment increases the living wage for lowest-wage individuals employed by contractors or subcontractors doing business with Cook County. The county's current living wage of \$7.60 per hour will be increased to \$9.43 per hour if health benefits are provided, or \$10.68 per hour with no health benefits. There will be an annual adjustment calculated as 100% of the federal poverty line for a family of four (as defined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) with health benefits and 125% of the federal poverty line for a family of four without health benefits.

In addition, the proposed amendment applies to companies benefiting from property tax incentives as set forth in the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

These amendments will ensure fair wages and will contribute to the county's overall economic well-being.

The following is a synopsis of the Proposed Ordinance Amendment.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

COOK COUNTY LIVING WAGE ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, on September 15, 1998, the Cook County Board of Commissioners passed the County Living Wage Ordinance to establish meaningful employee compensation for lowest-wage individuals employed by a person or business entity awarded a contract or subcontract with Cook County; and

WHEREAS, Cook County's Living Wage Ordinance should be updated to reflect the most recent federal poverty level standards to maintain a stable and productive work force thereby stimulating the local economy; and

WHEREAS, companies that benefit from property tax incentives from Cook County should be held to the same living wage standard as those companies who do business with Cook County to ensure a fair wage for their employees and to contribute to the County's overall economic well-being; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF COOK:

The Cook County Living Wage Ordinance (98-O-21) is hereby amended by deleting the language stricken and by inserting the underlined language as follows:

Section 1. Living Wage Requirements.

Section 2. Applicability.

Section 3. Effective Date.

Referred to the Committee on Finance Labor Subcommittee on 5/18/04.

The public may testify at this meeting. Persons wishing to testify should give their name and the name of any organization they may represent to the Secretary to the Board, 118 North Clark Street, Room 567, County Building, Telephone: (312) 603-6127, also you can register at the location listed above, at the time of the meeting. Each organization will be limited to one speaker. Each speaker will be limited to 3 minutes. Speakers are requested to submit 30 copies of any written statement to the committee prior to speaking.

Michelle Harris, Secretary

Chairman: Murphy
Vice-Chairman: Moreno
Members: Butler, Gorman, Hansen, Maldonado, Sims

